



Wednesday
MARCH 23, 2011

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publication

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WIREIMAGE FILE PHOTO

THIS FALL
OUT BOY'S
GROWN UP

pages 16-17

United flying
the friendly
Wi-Fi skies **7**

BlackBerry
throws down
with iPad **10**

'Madden'
wants a piece
of Peppers **15**



THE SAVAGE LOVE GURU

DAN WON'T JUDGE YOUR DIRTY SECRETS. OK, MAYBE A LITTLE **PAGES 28-29**



For beer nerds

The Martini Bar, 401 S. LaSalle St.

Prepare your appetite for a night of beer pairings and tastings, featuring brews from Southern Tier Brewing Co. Craft beer specialists Steve Carnes and Kristen Colon lead a tasting of five beers with food pairings. 6-7:30 p.m. \$30-\$35: themartinibarchicago.com.



STEPPENWOLF PHOTO

For robot enthusiasts

Steppenwolf Theatre Garage, 1624 N. Halsted St. 312-335-1650

Live up your Wednesday with a cast of robots—and humans, too—at Sideshow Theatre Company's "Heddatron," a dramedy about a depressed housewife forced to perform in a mechanical version of the classic play "Hedda Gabler" by her robot kidnappers. A pay-what-you-can option is available at the door, first come, first served. 8 p.m. \$20.

For soup seekers

Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433

Show up to the hippest chow line in town for the weekly Soup and Bread night, featuring recipes from local musicians, writers, artists and more. This week, enjoy eats from Chicago Reader food columnist Mike Sula, Windy City Rollers derby girl Elizabeth "Juanna Rumbel" Gomez, City Provisions community caterer Cleetus Friedman and more. Producers of the WBEZ "Sound Opinions" music podcast provide entertainment. 5:30-8 p.m. Pay-what-you-can fundraiser for the Heartland Alliance Marjorie Kovler Center.

For movie marathoners

Brew & View, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave.

Bring a buddy and a 10-spot for beers and movies at the cheap movie series at The Vic Theatre. Catch a triple-feature of "The Fighter," "No Strings Attached" and "The Green Hornet." Soak up \$3 Miller Lite and Miller High Life specials and fill out Brew & View's online survey to get \$1 admission. 6:30 p.m. \$5: brewview.com



55²⁵

TODAY'S FORECAST

It'd be wise to invest in a sturdy umbrella



THU.

36

25
The rest of this week ...



FRI.

33

26
... looks a whole lot ...



SAT.

32

26
... like winter refuses ...



SUN.

32


24
... to leave us alone

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'MORNING' MELTDOWN

Chris Brown leaves broken window at ABC studio after awkward interview

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES Chris Brown got a little more than he bargained for during a promotional stop Tuesday for his new album.

During a sit-down on ABC's "Good Morning America," Robin Roberts pressed the singer about the legal troubles stemming from his 2009 altercation on an L.A. street with then-girlfriend Rihanna. Brown was accused of savagely beating the pop star and eventually pleaded guilty to felony assault and was placed on five years' probation.

Roberts began the interview by noting that Brown's restraining order against Rihanna had been relaxed and wondering whether the two still saw each other.

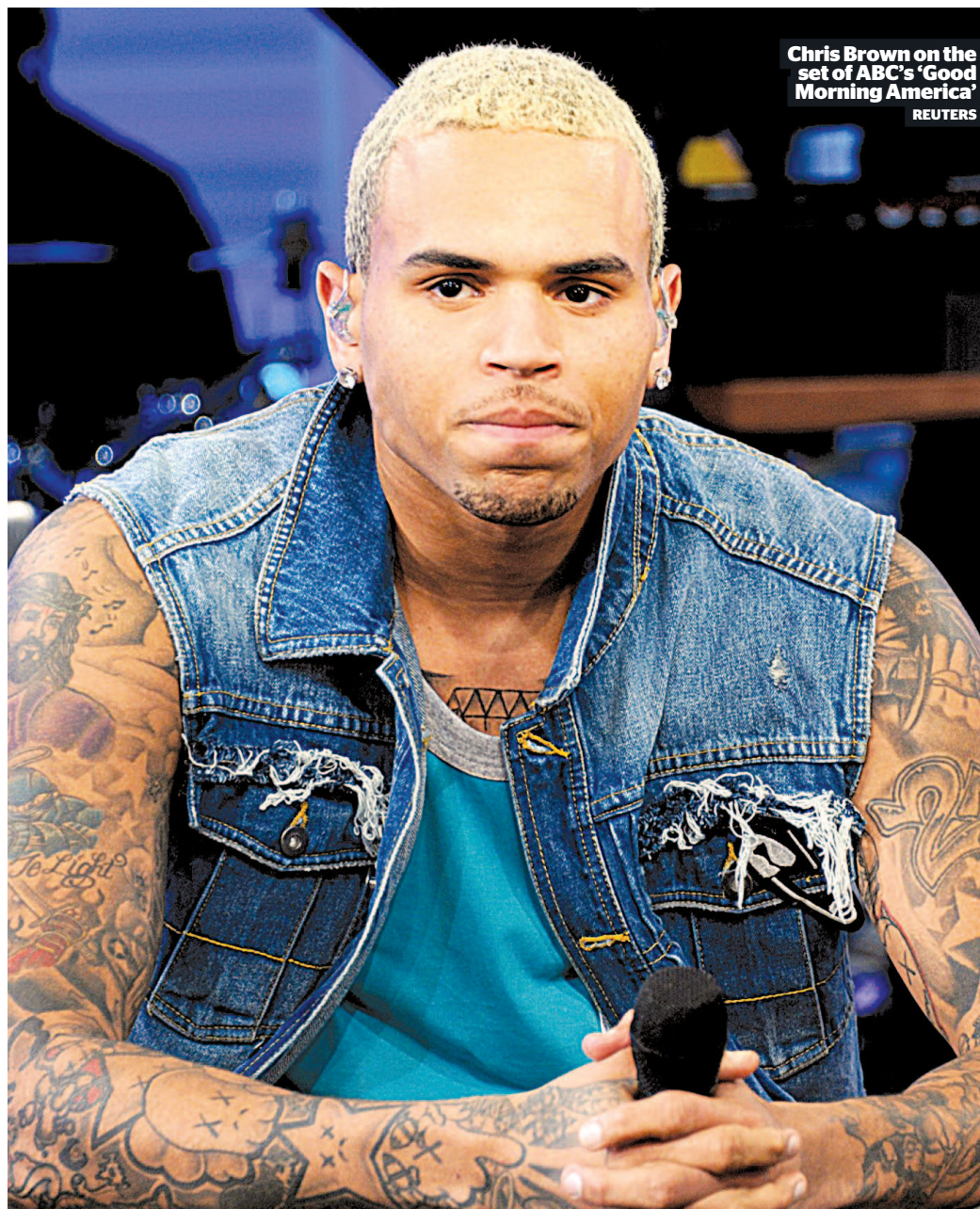
"I mean, not really," he said. "It's not really a big deal to me now as far as that situation. I think I'm past that in my life. I think today's the album day, so that's what I'm focused on. Everybody go get that album."

The exchange went downhill from there, as Roberts made perfunctory mention of the album and then sidled back to the Rihanna incident as Brown grew visibly upset.

"As always, we asked questions that are relevant and newsworthy, and that's what we did in this interview with Mr. Brown," ABC News said in a written statement.

But that wasn't all. After performing his new song "Yeah 3x," Brown stormed off the set and back to his dressing room, according to ABC. The show's staff heard loud noises coming from the room and called security. When Brown and his entourage departed a short time later, the staff discovered that a window in the dressing room had been smashed.

An ABC spokeswoman said the network did not plan to press charges against Brown over the damage, which might have affected his probation if police had gotten involved.



BROWN AND OUT

After his interview Tuesday, Chris Brown sent a Twitter message that later was deleted from his account, according to media reports, saying "I'm so over people bringing this past [bleep] up!!! Yet we praise Charlie sheen and other celebs for [their bleep]." The rest of the day, however, was spent posting pics and promoting his new album. REUTERS, REDEYE

» Album release party 2nite @ Webster Hall in NYC. F.A.M.E in stores now...come through!!!

» F.A.M.E

» Yessir!!! Shouts out to all the fans that are supporting F.A.M.E!!! long journey!! And I'm just humbled by everyones support!! Luv Ya



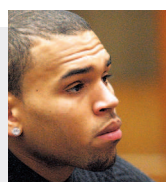
» F.A.M.E fortune cookie

» Oh snap!!! Have you heard? F.A.M.E is in stores now.



» Teambreezy!!!

» #FAMEnumber1 I love all my fans and team-breezy!!! I hope this album is everything you wanted!



CHRIS BROWN VS. CHARLIE SHEEN COVERAGE

After Chris Brown tweeted something about the media's treatment of Charlie Sheen—who pleaded guilty to assault on his ex-wife, Brooke Mueller—the Internet was abuzz Tuesday about whether he had a point. Did the media gloss over Sheen's reported episodes involving violence while highlighting Brown's own case? Outlets including nymag.com, salon.com, newsone.com and others posed the question, drawing strong responses on both sides of the issue. REDEYE

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**page
four**

**JEN
KIM**
ritaredeye
@tribune.com

Breaking up with Wal-Mart is hard

Upon Mayor Daley's announcement last week that two new Wal-Marts are going to be built next year on the South Side—bringing the city's total to six—my heart began to race. As Facebook might label it, my relationship with Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, is “complicated.”

Don't get me wrong. It used to be wonderful between us. I would drive in traffic, at all hours of the day and night, to satisfy some inexplicable craving that only Wal-Mart could fulfill. An economy-size jar of peanut butter? Check. A gun rack? Check.

Something strange happens to me once I enter through Wal-Mart's double doors and am greeted by cheerful senior citizens whose sole purpose is to emanate, “Hello, I love you.” I become someone else. I become someone I hate. Why? Because Wal-Mart, even though it treats me so good sometimes, has a dark, evil side too.

It's no secret I've got a thing for bad boys, but when you're uprooting entire communities and putting countless Americans out of work, I just can't sit there and bask in the fact that I purchased 1 billion tampons for just \$6.

I'm torn because we all know Wal-Mart likes the fact that Chinese workers are paid a fraction of what American workers are paid, hence the low-cost products. But being in cahoots with China is not always a good thing. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Chinese have a knack for topping global recall lists by exporting cheap, poorly made products that have poisoned pets, tainted food supplies and even given lead poisoning to children.

As recently as December, Wal-Mart recalled 2.2 million Chinese-made electric heaters because they were fire and burn hazards, according to a CNN report. This shouldn't be too much of a shock considering that in 2007, according to Fox News, the company pulled off the shelves flip-flops that caused chemical burns and rashes on people's feet. Wal-Mart, why are you trying to kill us?

Let's not even mention how many lawsuits old Wally is involved in today. In fact, according to Reuters, the Supreme Court will hear arguments next week in the largest class-action lawsuit in history—allegations of job discrimination against female employees, and the plaintiff list runs about 2 million names long.

When the new Wal-Marts move to the South Side, closer to me than ever, I'm going to have to do everything in my power to resist this temptation. No more late-night booty calls with me roaming down the superstore's poorly fluorescent-lit aisles, buying cheese and milk that I'm intolerant to, simply because they are such good deals. I will no longer be enticed by the \$1 bin of Spanish films because I have to come to terms with the fact that I don't understand the language.

It's going to be hard. Breakups always are. I'm going to need tissues and ice cream, pronto ... oh, crap! Wal-Mart, this is the last time I'm gonna see you, I swear.

JEN KIM IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

TALK TO US

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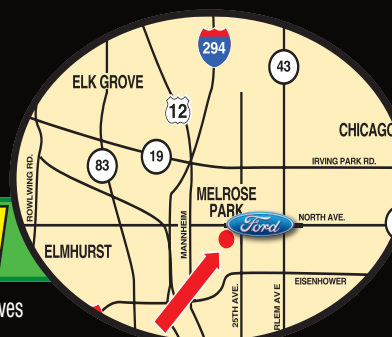
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 2008 Toyota Yaris Red, Auto, AC, CO, #P15645 \$9,977	 2009 Kia Spectra EX Gold, Auto, CO, PW, Remob, #P15521 \$10,977	 2010 Chevrolet Cobalt LS Auto, Air, Steering, Brake, #P15014 \$11,277	 2007 Mercury Milan White, Power Windows, CO, #47074D \$11,577	 2006 Mazda MAZDA3 Stk, AC, Fast, Clean, #P15502 \$11,777	 2008 Chevy Cobalt Red, 4 Cyl, Full Pwr, Alloys, #P15470 \$11,977	 2009 Chrysler PT Cruiser 4 Cyl, Auto, Steering, #P15641 \$11,977
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 2008 Subaru Outback 4x4, Silver, Super Clean, #11129A \$16,777	 2008 Ford Taurus Ltd AWD, Ltr, Roof, Must See, #10753A \$16,777	 2007 Ford Edge SE Loaded, V6, Nice, Black, #P15608 \$16,877	 2010 Jeep Patriot 4 Cyl, Auto, PW, PB, 3K Miles, #46858B \$17,277	 2010 Jeep Liberty Sport Auto, PW, PB, PL, #P15127 \$17,677	 2010 Chrysler 300 Touring Ltr, PS, PB, Remob, #P15805 \$18,377	 2010 Ford E150 Cargo V8, PW, PL, AC, #P15592 \$18,577
 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT Pwr Doors, Rear AC, Loaded, #P15570 \$18,577	 2010 Chevy Express Cargo 2500 V8, AC, #P15557 \$18,977	 2008 Chevy Silverado 1500 4x4, Auto, 3500 Miles, Blue, #47091A \$18,977	 2008 Honda Accord EXL Ltr, Roof, Loaded, Full Pwr, #11037A \$18,977	 2010 Ford Escape CO, Auto, Air, 4x2, 10K Miles, #46829A \$22,977	 2010 Ford Explorer XLT Auto, Air, 4x4, PW, PB, #P15256 \$23,477	 2010 Ford Mustang GT Low Miles, V8, Ltr, Auto, #46883A \$23,977

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iPad2, where are you?

Shoppers wait in line Tuesday morning to buy (they hope) the iPad2 at the Michigan Avenue Apple Store. Apple's latest gadget has been extremely popular—and extremely difficult to purchase, with many retail stores selling out in minutes. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE**

Now batting: New organist

Chicago Tribune

Her background is in sacred music. Now she'll have to brush up her "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye."

Meet Lori Moreland, new stadium organist for the White Sox.

Moreland takes over for Nancy Faust, who retired last season after 40 years and more than 3,000 games with the White Sox.

"I can't even believe I'm sitting here," Moreland said Tuesday from her organ booth behind home plate. "It's almost like a dream."

Moreland, 52, is a church organist by day at Our Lady of Knock in Calumet City. Now she's brushing up on her Eminems and Ushers.

"I have two teenage boys who've kept me in the loop about staying modern with music," said Moreland, who lives in Crete. "I have some things by Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, definitely Lady Gaga."



Faust had encouraged Moreland (no relation to new Cubs radio man Keith) to apply for the vacant organist position.

Moreland, a "White Sox fan to the core," had no expectations other than that it would be fun to audition.

In December, she got a call for a second interview. A week after that, she was offered the job, beating out dozens of candidates.

"She was upbeat, outgoing, charismatic, with a built-in passion for the White Sox," said Nichole Manning, senior director of game operations. "No one can fill Nancy's shoes, but we hope Lori will be there as long as she can."

HOT DATE

April 7: That's when Lori Moreland (left) premieres her rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at the White Sox's home opener against the Tampa Bay Rays. "If I don't get that one right, I'll be in big trouble," she said. "But I've got that one down pat for sure."

**PHIL VELASQUEZ/
TRIBUNE PHOTO**

Wi-Fi in the sky—finally—for United

Chicago Tribune

The last big U.S. airline holdout to the Wi-Fi revolution, United Continental Holdings Inc., unveiled plans to wire 200 domestic aircraft for satellite-based broadband service starting next year.

United Continental said Tuesday it had signed a letter of intent with LiveTV, a subsidiary of JetBlue Airways, to provide in-flight Internet service on more than 200 Continental Boeing 737 and 757 jets already equipped for DirecTV service.

The Chicago-based parent company to United and Continental airlines also is exploring adding international Wi-Fi service and mulling deals with other broadband providers to help wire its fleet of more than 700 jets, United Continental CEO Jeff Smisek told investors and analysts Tuesday.

"We are also working on projects to roll out Wi-Fi across the remainder of our fleet," Smisek told attendees of J.P. Morgan's Aviation, Transportation and Defense Conference. "It may well be with a different set of providers than LiveTV."

The moves are certain to be welcomed by some longtime business customers of United and Continental airlines, which have been slow to act as rivals such as Delta, Southwest and American airlines retrofitted aircraft for wireless connections.

United offers Aircell's Gogo Inflight Internet service on only 14 aircraft equipped for its Premium Service cross-country flights between New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport and L.A. and San Francisco. Continental doesn't offer any broadband service.

That places United Continental at a competitive disadvantage to other carriers, particularly in the battle to draw business travelers, said Henry Harteveltdt, travel industry analyst with Forrester Research Inc.

"It's an essential must-have now," said Harteveltdt, after stepping off a five-hour United flight without Internet access, Tuesday. "United is competitively inferior to American, Delta, Virgin, Southwest and Alaska. If United wants to look at losing business, then not having Wi-Fi is a great way to lose business travelers."

SERVICE CALLS

Since United and Continental merged in October, officials have been selecting on-board services to be rolled out fleetwide after the two carriers meld into a single entity to be called United Airlines later this year.

chicago

Police: No sign of forced entry in fatal beating

Chicago Tribune

Police say there was no sign of forced entry to an apartment where a woman was found beaten to death in Woodlawn.

Barbara Ann Smith, 46, was found by relatives who forced their way into the second-floor apartment in the 1500 block of East 65th Street at about 8:30 p.m. Monday, according to police.

Authorities said the woman appeared to have been beaten to death with a blunt object, and there were no apparent signs that anyone had forced their way into the apartment prior to her death.

An autopsy performed Tuesday morning showed that Smith died of multiple injuries in an assault and her death was ruled a homicide, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

Neighbor Tonia Denham said Smith cleaned the hallways of the apartment building once a week and also worked at a suburban Jamba Juice.

Denham said "she was a nice person" who lived in the building for about 10 years. Smith's son also lived with her, she said.

"I couldn't sleep last night. ... I'm just scared," said Denham, who has lived there for about three years.

Friends of Smith set up a makeshift memorial with balloons, stuffed rabbits and a teddy bear in front of the apartment building.

Woman taken to hospital after suicide threat

A woman was taken to a hospital for observation following reports that she threatened to jump from a Near North high-rise, Chicago police said. Fire and police officials responded to the building in the 1000 block of North State Street about 2:30 p.m.

2 arrested at dog fight

Two men were arrested after Cook County sheriff's deputies broke up a dog fight in Englewood, officials said. The arrests were made March 18 after an undercover officer slipped into the dog fight in the 1400 block of West Marquette Road.

Blue Line delays

Delays were reported on the Blue Line on Tuesday morning as firefighters checked out reports of smoke in the subway tunnel. There were no reports of injuries and crews were called back at 8:30 a.m., officials said.

TRIBUNE



Ald. Bob Fioretti (left) speaks at a news conference Tuesday surrounded by East Garfield Park residents celebrating their grassroots effort to close a neighborhood liquor store they say was a magnet for illegal activities. MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

Liquor store taps out

Chicago Tribune

From her porch, Marissa Baker had a clear view of the dilapidated liquor store at Madison Street and Francisco Avenue.

In the two years she and her husband have lived in their East Garfield Park row house, the couple witnessed dice games, drug deals and public urination in the littered vacant lots that flank the liquor store at 2901 W. Madison St., she said.

On Tuesday, Baker and her neighbors joined community organizers to celebrate their successful efforts to shutter the store, which they said attracted prostitution and a

constant crowd of loiterers.

"Since it closed, the difference is night and day," Baker said.

While Illinois gives residents the power to ban liquor stores, taverns and nightclubs by putting the question to voters on a ballot, neighbors in East Garfield Park took a different tack.

Not wanting to turn the entire community dry, the neighborhood turned to the Chicago Buildings Department in an effort to shut the store.

As a result of their complaints, Ali Muhammad, who owns the store and building,

faces 47 building code violations and the possibility that the city will demolish his building. He finally relinquished his liquor license after almost 30 years in business.

"I did it because I can't keep fighting," said Muhammad, who decried the campaign against his store. "This is not fair."

Since last summer, the Buildings Department has ordered 15 liquor stores or bars to close because the buildings did not meet code. If a structure poses a danger, Commissioner Richard Monocchio said, his department has the authority to shut the business.

Would development plan ruin Lincoln Park?

Chicago Tribune

The controversial redevelopment of the Lincoln Park hospital site cleared a key City Council hurdle Tuesday, less than two months before the sitting alderman retires.

Not a single member of the Zoning Committee opposed the Webster Square plan, which has been debated for more than a year and a half. It includes condominiums, flats, "health and wellness" offices and, most controversially, a grocery store.

Ald. Vi Daley (43rd) recently signed off on the deal after the developers agreed to position a loading dock in a way designed to keep trucks out of a nearby historic neighborhood.

"The applicant has made a number of changes in this plan due to community input" by lowering the height of a building, reducing the number of residential units by 10 to 152 and reconfiguring the loading area off Webster Street, Daley said. "Ward-wide,

there is a majority of support."

But the plan remains controversial, with strong views from residents who said it either would revitalize the area or harm its character.

The two candidates to replace Daley in the April 5 runoff election hold opposing views on the plan, which now goes to the full City Council. It's likely to be voted on before the new alderman takes office in early May.

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REUTERS

Fighter jet crashes in Libya

1 The pilot and the weapons inspector of a U.S. F-15E Strike Eagle that had flown from Aviano air base in Italy to Libya were rescued Tuesday after they safely ejected from their plane when it experienced mechanic problems and crashed, U.S. Navy Adm. Samuel Locklear III said. The aviators, who suffered minor injuries when they landed, were out of Libya and in U.S. hands, Locklear said.

Radiation still a problem

2 Japan's earthquake-hit nuclear complex still is emitting radiation but the source is unclear, a senior U.N. atomic agency official said Tuesday as workers faced another day of struggle to cool damaged reactor cores.

Fires threaten Colo. homes

3 Firefighters battling a 1,200-acre Colorado wildfire faced high winds Tuesday, officials said, complicating efforts to control the blaze that has so far forced the evacuation of 17 homes. Some 700 additional homes are on standby for possible evacuation.

No kiss, just bang-bang

4 A 92-year-old Florida woman fired four rounds from a semi-automatic pistol into her neighbor's home after the 53-year-old man refused to give her a kiss, authorities said Tuesday. The neighbor was not injured, and the woman was arrested on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and shooting into a dwelling.

Lohan's father charged

5 There may be two Lohans headed to court. Lindsay's dad, Michael, faces multiple felony charges stemming from a domestic violence dispute at a West Hollywood apartment, police in L.A. said Tuesday.

THE DIGIT

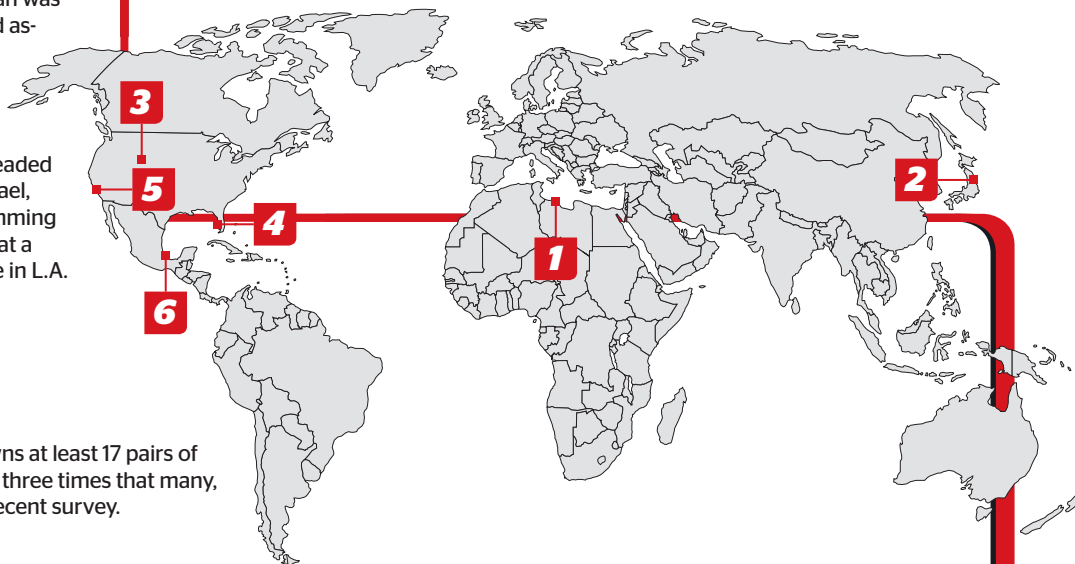
17

The average American woman owns at least 17 pairs of shoes, though many women have three times that many, ShopSmart magazine found in a recent survey.



Muddy walkers

6 A Mexican boy performs during an exhibition of the "indigenous circus" at a festival recently in Veracruz, Mexico. GETTY IMAGES



What the tech?

What a day for techies and gadget lovers. From tablets to cell phones, the news poured in Tuesday. Here is a sampling of the day's tech headlines.

Free 'Angry Birds'

Amazon.com Inc. began selling applications for the Google Android smart phone in its new "Appstore" just days after Apple filed a lawsuit claiming the digital storefront infringes its "App Store" trademark. Escalating the fight with Apple, Amazon said Tuesday that it was giving away an Android version of "Angry Birds Rio" as part of the promotion for the new site. Normally the game would sell for 99 cents.

A BlackBerry tablet

The BlackBerry PlayBook tablet will go on sale April 19, starting at \$499 — the same price as its main rival, the Apple iPad. Research In Motion announced Tuesday that the PlayBook will be sold through several retailers, including AT&T, Sprint and Verizon. Best Buy said separately it will start accepting pre-orders Tuesday.

Battle of the browsers

With the recent releases of Internet Explorer 9 and Google Chrome 10, and Tuesday's release of Firefox 4, the three most-used browsers are trying to outduel one another with the most impressive specs. On Tuesday, Mozilla's Firefox 4 browser was racing toward 4 million downloads, just hours after the software was released.

Sprint vs. AT&T

Sprint Nextel CEO Dan Hesse said the company plans to submit its concerns over AT&T's proposed acquisition of T-Mobile USA to Congress, saying the deal hurts the industry. He said AT&T and Verizon Wireless would hold 79 percent of the U.S. market if regulators approve the deal.

THE QUOTE

"I have always said, heard, that it would not be strange that there had been civilization on Mars, but maybe capitalism arrived there, imperialism arrived and finished off the planet."



—VENEZUELA PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ
ON TUESDAY IN A SPEECH TO MARK WORLD WATER DAY

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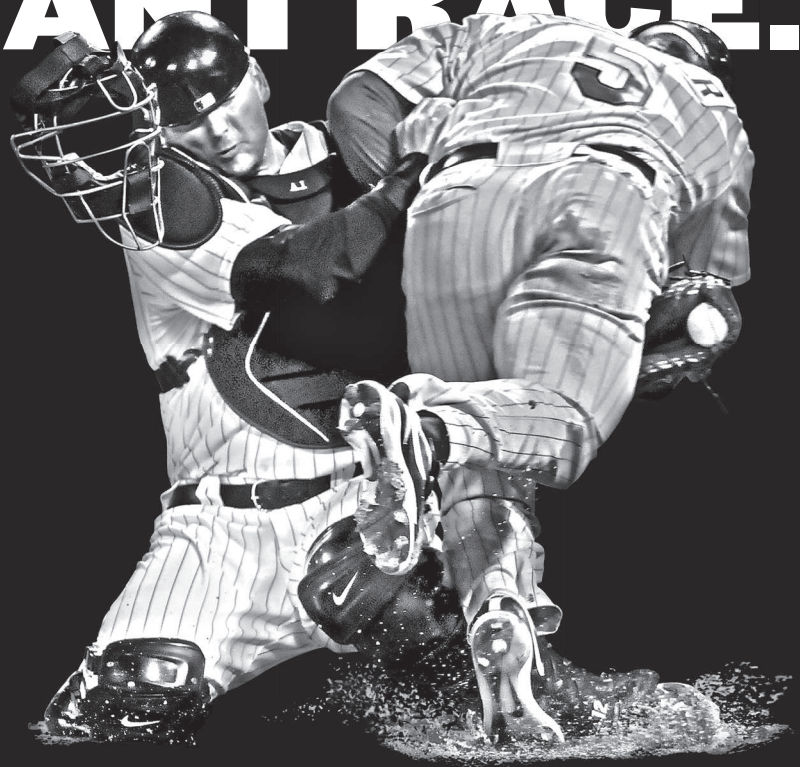


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04/13 1:10p **WHITE SOX WALL CALENDAR**
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BULLS 114, ATLANTA 81

BULLS ROLL

Just another 30-point game for Derrick Rose in victory

RedEye

Everything was falling for the Bulls on Tuesday night. Almost literally.

The Bulls shot almost 55 percent—56 percent from 3-point range—in a complete dismantling of Atlanta, 114-81. It was the Bulls' 51st win of the season and their 10th in the past 11 games. It was enough to prompt coach Tom Thibodeau to actually sit for a portion of the game.

The Bulls' stats were eye-popping.

>> Derrick Rose scored 30 and hit a career-high six 3-pointers.

>> Luol Deng scored 27 on 10-of-15 shooting.

>> The Bulls scored 41 in the second quarter and had 72 points at halftime

>> In one stretch of play from late in the first quarter to late in the second, the Bulls scored on an astounding 16 straight possessions.

>> The Bulls shot 81 percent in the second quarter.

It's the first time the Bulls have won two straight games by 25 or more points since March 22 and 24, 1997, and, coupled with Monday's 40-point victory over the Kings, set a franchise mark for largest combined margin of victory in back-to-back games.

"You're never going to stop hearing from Thibs," Rose said. "He always says if we want to be the team we want to be, we have to put more into it. That's what we're doing. We're pushing ourselves. We can't be satisfied where we are now."

Only Rasual Butler and Ronnie Brewer failed to score for the Bulls.

The win gave the Bulls a half-game lead in the race for the No. 1 playoff seed in the Eastern Conference.

TRIBUNE CONTRIBUTED

Playing in pain

Taj Gibson played in his second straight game while playing through a painful turf toe condition, suffered in Friday's overtime loss to the Pacers.

It's yet another example of a Bull playing through pain this season. Rose played with stomach ulcers. Noah played nine games with a torn ligament in his thumb before succumbing to surgery. Luol Deng is battling a bruised left thigh.

"It's great," Thibodeau said. "Obviously, we don't want guys to play when they're injured. But if they're hurting, we want them to give it a try."



Derrick Rose drives to the basket against Atlanta center Zaza Pachulia (left) and guard Kirk Hinrich during the first half Tuesday at Phillips Arena. The Bulls crushed the Hawks, 114-81. US PRESSWIRE

Primed for Cubs, Sox

If you're like me, you're longing for those sweltering summer days and backyard beerbecues with the Cubs or White Sox on the radio. The good news is we're almost there. But until then, let's take a look at what you can expect to see from the Cubs and Sox in 2011.



**top ten
chicago
sports**

MATT OLSEN
chicagonow.com/
blogs

10 Meltdowns

Where can we bet on when the next Ozzie Guillen or Carlos Zambrano implosion goes down?

9 Strikeouts

A summer's worth of Adam Dunn and Carlos Pena K's will unleash more hot air than a Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly rally.

8 Empty seats

The Cell won't sell out even if the Sox went all in, and Cubs fans made it known they won't pack Wrigley if their team sucks.

7 Home-run derby

Between the epic beer-league softball Sox roster and the big bats in blue, you can expect the long ball to reign supreme in the Chi.

6 Fisticuffs

You'd think it'd be Guillen charging the mound with a trident. But it's the lovable losers who treat the dugout like an MMA octagon.

5 New faces

The names Dunn, Pena and Garza may be new. But soon you'll have no problem hurling F-bombs at them if they do something stupid.

4 Dealing

Both squads fared well in the offseason arms race and are loaded with quality options at the front and back of the rotation.

3 Winning

Not the kind that cracked-out goddess-hoarder made famous. I'm talking about winning records for the Sox and Cubs.

2 Playoffs

While most predict a pale hose playoff run, the Cubbies could squeak in thanks to cataclysmic injuries around the NL Central.

1 Failure

I can personally guarantee the Cubs and Sox will deliver another epic World Series fail for your enjoyment.

>> Read a new top 10 sports list every day at chicagonow.com/top-ten-chicago-sports.

five on five

Dunk this

You might not be able to slam like Derrick Rose, but your highlight could be joining this panel at redeyechicago.com/sports.



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ERNEST WILKINS
twitter.com/remixchicago



JULIE DI CARO
aeryssports.com



SOXMAN
twitter.com/thesoxman72



ASHLEY BOND
chicagonow.com/bodybybond

1 What move does Derrick Rose need to make to complete his highlight reel?

A move to Miami apparently will skyrocket him to success. Right, LeBron?

Him weeping while clutching that weird-looking NBA trophy would be pretty great.

Hitting a minor-league fastball.

Not a thing besides the NBA championship bling. It's already a slam dunk.

Seriously, the backward half-court shot that Benny the Bull takes. Exciting every time.

2 The Bulls have 50 wins for the first time since 1998. What's that mean?

They're finally making sense.

That we're all witnessing the next great era of the Bulls. Either that or everyone else sucks this year.

That I've wasted 13 years of my life watching a not-very-good basketball team.

Fifty? They are over the hill! Sorry, I meant over the hump.

I don't want to jinx anything. (Yes, my fingers are crossed and I wear the same dirty socks at every game.)

3 When will the Bulls next lose a game at the United Center?

Not this season as long as they have Jo. Mmmm, streak.

When doves cry. Wait, that's not right. Still a jam though. "How can you just leave me standing ..."

After the Cubs are mathematically eliminated from the NL Central.

Coach Thibodeau doesn't talk about losing. He focuses on winning!

Not till next year. There are only six home games left in the regular season.

4 Nine days until the Cubs and White Sox season openers and I'm ...

... hoping they're not starting weakened.

... stringing together run on sentences because I'm THAT excited about the Sox and Hi Jenn!

... terrified that the Cubs' breakup with Carlos Silva is not going as smoothly as I had planned.

... all in. Let's go White Sox (clap, clap, clap-clap-clap).

... still too excited about basketball to think about it. Although, Opening Day is a lot of fun ... hmmm ...

5 Give Northwestern a pep talk for its NIT game for a chance to make the Final Four.

I'm sorry, I refuse to participate in any Northwestern demonstrations.

"You know this Final Four isn't the one that matters, right? Oh wait, you do? OK, well GIVE 'EM HELL THEN!"

"It could be worse. You could be Indiana."

Roar to the Four! Play purrrrrfect and be grrrrreat, Wildcats.

Pep talk to "Chicago's Big Ten School" (insert finger quotes)? Puh-lease. I am orange and blue, baby.

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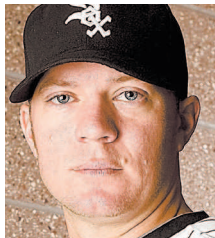
The day's news from Cubs and White Sox spring training.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

» **L.A. Dodgers 2, Cubs 1**
» **Seattle 9, White Sox 5**

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

» **Cubs vs. Oakland, 3:05 p.m.**
» **White Sox vs. L.A. Dodgers, 3:05 p.m.**



Peavy pitches a bit

Jake Peavy (above) played five minutes of catch Tuesday with White Sox bullpen coach Juan Nieves at Camelback Ranch. Peavy, recovering from tendinitis in his right rotator cuff, threw at a distance of about 30-40 feet on a practice field. "I felt better than I did a couple days ago," Peavy said.

OPENING DAY COUNTDOWN

9 DAYS

Until the Cubs, Sox openers

MARCH MADDENNESS

Can Julius Peppers survive a video game cover bracket?

RedEye

March Madness football?

In a way, yes. The Bears' Julius Peppers is one of the NFL players fans can vote for to be on the cover of "Madden '12." Like the NCAA Tournament, players will advance through a bracket if they win their matchup.

First up for No. 8-seeded Peppers? No. 9 seed Adrian Peterson of Minnesota.

Bears fans, you might want to think twice about throwing your support behind Peppers considering the "Madden curse." Many of the "Madden" cover athletes have fallen on hard times. Consider the following.

» Ryan Smith analyzes the "Madden" bracket at chicagonow.com/gamesmith.



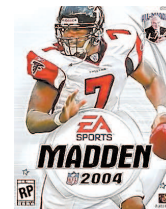
Vote for the "Madden 12" cover player online at es.pn/icYWgQ. ESPN.COM

NFL moves up kickoffs

The Bears suffered their second big loss of 2011 on Tuesday when the NFL voted to move the kickoff line from the 30-yard line to the 35.

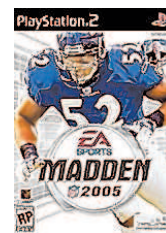
It is anticipated this will result in more touchbacks and fewer return opportunities for stars such as Devin Hester. The Bears were not in favor of the new rule.

"It's the most exciting play in the game," Smith said Tuesday before the rule was passed. "We're totally against the rule. We don't even get into the conversation. How do we get to this point?"



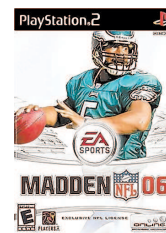
2004

Michael Vick graces the cover of "Madden" and breaks his leg in the preseason.



2005

Ray Lewis suffers a wrist injury and doesn't register one interception the entire season for the first time in his career.



2006

Donovan McNabb tears his ACL and suffers a sports hernia the season after being on the cover.



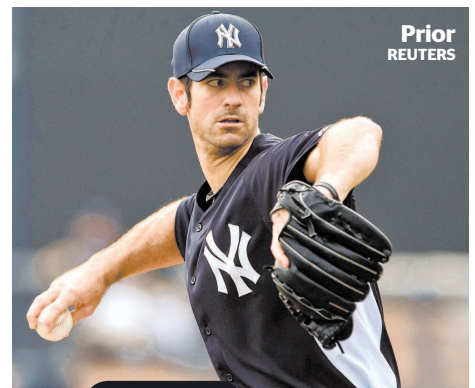
2007

Reigning MVP Shaun Alexander suffers a foot injury that causes him to miss six games.



2009

Brett Favre is on the cover in a Green Bay uniform, then he unretired and played for the N.Y. Jets. He threw 22 interceptions and tore his biceps.



Prior
REUTERS

txtable

TODAY'S DOGFIGHT

Do you believe in the Madden curse? Text "curse1" for yes or "curse2" for no to **87708**. I'll send you the results instantly.

Mark Prior pitched a scoreless inning with two strikeouts for the N.Y. Yankees on Monday, lowering his spring training ERA to 1.35. Cubs fans, you know how this story must end, right? There is no way humanly possible Prior doesn't come back better than ever and

someday crush the Cubs and their fans' hearts in some big game.

GET WILD

Northwestern Wildcats, for one day I will waive my no-feline-support rule and root for you. You guys need something good to happen to you—even if it is the NIT.



SLICK DEFENSE

Barry Bonds' lawyer says the slugger admits using steroids—except he thought he was really taking flaxseed oil. I assume Allen Ruby said this with a straight face. That is both admirable and laughable.

SPORTS BRIEFS

» Patrick Sharp's knee injury is not as serious as initially feared and the Blackhawks' scoring leader could be back before the end of the regular season. Hawks coach Joel Quenneville didn't specify the extent of Sharp's injury. "We hope to have him back before the end of the regular season," he said.

» N.Y. Jets coach Rex Ryan labeled as "ridiculous" the claim by the late Dave Duerson that Ryan's father, Buddy, called the former Bears safety an offensive racial epithet. "There isn't a prejudiced bone in our bodies or my dad's body," Rex Ryan said.

» Former NFL star Lawrence Taylor was sentenced Tuesday to six years' probation for an encounter with an underage prostitute.

GAME PLANNER

Blackhawks vs. Florida
7:30 p.m. CSN

Detroit vs. Vancouver
6:30 p.m. Vs.

Northwestern at Washington State
10 p.m. ESPN2

WELCOME ABOARD

The Blackhawks brought in Marcus Kruger to help fill the void left by the injured Dave Bolland. Frankly, I'd feel a lot better about the Blackhawks if they brought in Freddy Krueger.

TREATED

Julius Peppers, I'll share my sack of TBonz with you anytime.

music



Read at **metromix.com**: Stump talks about returning to writing lyrics, his thoughts on fame and what TV show he wants to work on.



chi tunes

ANDY DOWNING
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FalloutMan

Older and on his own,
Patrick Stump
becomes a 'Soul Punk'

By Andy Downing

Things have been fairly quiet for Patrick Stump since Fall Out Boy went on hiatus in November 2009. But that's all about to change.

The singer, born and raised in suburban Glenview, recently released a six-song teaser EP of wildly varied arena-pop sketches dubbed "Truant Wave," culled from material left over from recording sessions for his long-in-the-works solo debut. Initially scheduled for a February release, that full-length record, "Soul Punk," now is

expected in June.

In the interim, Stump—still one of the most under-rated vocalists in pop music—is hitting the road for a handful of shows, including a pair of intimate homecoming gigs at Schubas. Reached at home in L.A., the 26-year-old discussed the challenges of going solo, how his John Hughes-ian upbringing helped him survive Fall Out Boy's success and whether fans can ever expect to see the band reunited.

ANDY DOWNING IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM.

PATRICK STUMP PERSONALITY TEST

What's the last album you bought?

It's some Odd Future instrumentals record. I don't remember the name of it because they didn't release it under the name Odd Future, but it's definitely them.

Chicago's best music venue?

I always have a soft spot for Metro.

1 What was the most enthusiastic fan reaction you had to deal with in Fall Out Boy?

I remember we played in Texas once years and years ago and some girl was up in the front row. There were kids pushing from behind and she broke her arm on the edge of the stage. We stopped playing, brought her up the side and called her an ambulance. She refused to leave because she wanted to see the rest of the show. It was a stalemate. "No. We're not going to play until you go to the hospital." "I'm not leaving until you play."

2 How did you keep yourself grounded throughout that Fall Out Boy roller coaster?

I was still pretty young when the band took off, but for the most part I had enough of the traditional John Hughes, suburban Chicago childhood that it outlasted a lot of the other influences.

3 Did you have to pause and take some time off to figure out who you wanted to be as a solo artist?

The weird thing is that I didn't pause. I went right into it, then took a step back and said, "OK, what is this? Who is this?" The first pass at "Soul Punk" was really, really scatter-brained. I mean, that's kind of where the title comes from in the first place. It's really easy for a lot of my friends to assume I'm going to put out an R&B record. And it's really easy for pop culture to assume I'm going to put out a punk record. But I'm really neither. I'm my own me.

4 Are you going for the one-man-loops-everything, Jon Brion at Largo-type approach at Schubas?

There might be some intimate moments, but I'm not doing my troubadour, Jim-Croce-on-the-stool kind of show. I'm bringing a band—in part because I finally saw the Jon Brion show. I've known about him for a long

time, but I never actually went and saw him. Afterward it was like, "Yeah, he does this way better than me. I shouldn't do this."

5 What's the status of "Soul Punk"?

I had intended to release it [in February]. And it's ready. It's been ready. I finished the record and I was getting ready to go to mastering and then I wrote a song that totally changed the whole record for me. When you do that, it throws everything else off. An artist has whims and then I guess the rest of the people figure out the logistics. [Laughs.]

6 Has that been one of the challenges of going solo, not having someone to counter those whims?

Yes, absolutely. Learning to discern when you have a bad idea is a really strange thing. It's kind of trial by fire.

7 Do you see a Fall Out Boy reunion happening anytime in the next 10 years?

Of course. The four of us never had a conversation where we were like, "[Bleep] you, man! I quit!" That never happened. We're all still friends, and as far as I know we're still a band. I would be surprised if we didn't do something.

8 I think part of it is that phrase "indefinite hiatus." When you hear that, the first thought is, "They're done."

And it sucks, because what do you call it anymore? Somebody ruined it. Maybe the Police? Have we played together in the past two years? Yeah. Joe and I sat together and played guitar for a while. Andy and I played some stuff. Pete and I played some stuff. We haven't all four gotten in the same room and played together, but the band never broke up. I think we needed to go back and recollect ourselves and for some reason it turned into "Why did you guys break up?" Or "Thank God they broke up!"

Song you've listened to on repeat recently?

"Me and Mrs. Jones" by Billy Paul. I don't know why. It just happened.

Song you never want to hear again?

"With Arms Wide Open." I'm sorry. I know Creed's the punching bag, but I really don't want to hear that song ever again.

Best concert you've seen in the last year? Janelle Monae. It's almost the best live show I've ever seen.

New band you don't know personally that deserves to be big?

Foster the People. They have this song "Kids with the pumped up kicks." It's killer.

Favorite movie ever?

I want to say "Seventh Seal." I want to drop Fellini in there, but it's really just "Ghostbusters."

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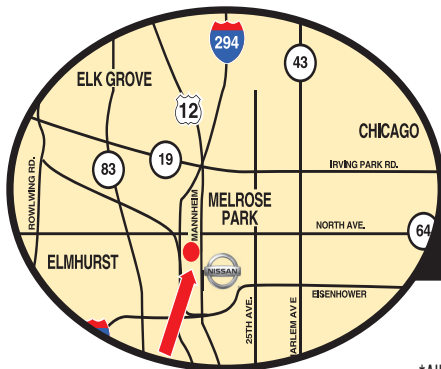
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DINING PICK OF THE WEEK

The Bedford's Mark Steuer boards the Southern Mac Truck

Remember when Girl & the Goat handed out numbered raffle buttons to give fans the chance to win a seat at a preview dinner? The Bedford just launched a similar social media project. If you spot someone wearing a Bedford T-shirt, ask them to "unlock the vault" and they'll give you a numbered key card. Then follow @thebedfordchi on Twitter and retweet the phrase and number detailed

on the key card for the chance to win access to a preview dinner. Keys will be handed out during the Southern Mac Truck's Wednesday and Thursday lunch stops, where Steuer will be doling out a different mac 'n' cheese special each day. Though the specials won't be previews of dishes on The Bedford's menu, they may give some hints about Steuer's cooking style. Look for the truck starting at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday near Wells and Madison streets and Thursday at the Merchandise Mart near Kinzie and Franklin streets.



Southern Mac Truck
LISA ARNETT/METROMIX

DINING DEALS AND EVENTS THROUGH SUNDAY

✳️ = THIS WEEK ONLY

ANGELINA RISTORANTE

Wed.: Neighborhood Night. 20 percent off entire bill for Lakeview residents; 11 a.m. Sat.: 10 a.m. Sun.: \$21 Champagne brunch; 3561 N. Broadway. 773-935-5933.

BRANCH 27

Wed.: \$20 cassoulet with a glass of red wine; Thu.: \$27 three-course menu; 1371 W. Chicago Ave. 312-850-2700.

CAFE SELMARIE

Wed.: half-price bottles of wine with entree purchase; Thu.: \$22 three-course dinner 4 p.m.; 4729 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-989-5595.

CHICAGO Q

Wed.-Sun.: March Madness. The restaurant matches each team in the NCAA Tournament with a beer or bourbon and offers the winning team's drink for \$2 off the day after each game. The champion's drink

will be discounted for a week after the final game; Prices vary; 1160 N. Dearborn St. 312-642-1160.

* JOE'S SEAFOOD, PRIME STEAK & STONE CRAB

11 a.m. Sun.: National Joe Day. Get a free cup of coffee with purchase of lunch or dinner. If your name is Joe (or some variation, such as Jose, Joanna, etc.), also get a free piece of pie; 60 E. Grand Ave. 312-379-5637.

KOHAN JAPANESE RESTAURANT

Wed.-Fri.: \$11.95 buffet 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Includes unlimited maki, miso soup and hot tea; 730 W. Maxwell St. 312-421-6254.

LA TABERNA

TAPAS ON HALSTED Wed.: \$2 off tapas and entrees 5-7 p.m.; Thu.: \$25 five-course menu, \$2 off tapas and entrees 5-7 p.m.; Sun.: \$40 menu for two; 1301 S. Halsted St. 312-243-9980.

MARIGOLD INDIAN RESTAURANT

Thu.-Sun.: \$9 for a naanwich and a beer 5:30-6:30 p.m.; 4832 N. Broadway. 773-293-4653.

* THE PUBLICAN

1:30 p.m. Sat.: spring food drive. Donate canned goods and nonperishable items and get free snacks and beer from Hannah's Bretzel and Three Floyds Brewing; 837 W. Fulton Market. 312-733-9555.

SOCCA

Thu.: \$5 pizzas in the bar 5-7 p.m. Choose from caprese, prosciutto, grilled chicken and goat cheese; Sat.-Sun.: \$8-\$12 brunch 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; \$25 three-course dinner 5-10 p.m.; 3301 N. Clark St. 773-248-1155.

THREE ACES

Wed.: \$5 Old Style tallboy and a shot of Malort, \$4 for a half-pound of mussels; 1321 W. Taylor St. 312-243-1577.

VERMILION

Wed.-Fri.: \$24 three-course lunch 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Menu is inspired by "Iron Chef America" battles and changes weekly; Wed.-Thu.: \$12 tapas flight in the lounge 5-7 p.m. in the lounge; 10 W. Hubbard St. 312-527-4060.

ZAPATISTA MEXICAN GRILL

Wed.: 25 percent off glasses of wine, \$5 sangria glasses; Thu.: \$5 rumritas; Sat.-Sun.:

\$5 bloody marys with Coronita back, \$5 brunch entrees 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; 444 W. Fullerton Pkwy. 312-435-1307.

* CHICAGO CHEF WEEK REMINDER!

If you forgot to make reservations for \$22 three-course lunches and \$33 three-course dinners, you may still be able to get in on the event, running through Saturday. Log on to chicagochefweek.com to make reservations.

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| <p>10PIN BOWLING LOUNGE
 \$3 PBR bottles; 330 N. State St. 312-644-0300.</p> <p>260 SPORTS BAR
 \$3 martinis and well cocktails; 260 W. 26th St., Third Floor. 312-706-8100.</p> <p>ABERDEEN TAP
 \$3 Stella Artois drafts; 440 N. Aberdeen St. 312-929-3845.</p> <p>THE BAR 10 DOORS
 \$3 Svedka cocktails; 1251 W. Taylor St. 312-226-1611.</p> <p>THE BEER BISTRO
 \$3 select import and craft drafts; 1061 W. Madison St. 312-433-0013.</p> <p>THE BEETLE
 \$3 Rogue Dead Guy; 2532 W. Chicago Ave. 773-384-0701.</p> <p>BLACK DUCK
 \$3 select domestic bottles; 1800 N. Halsted St. 312-664-1801.</p> <p>BURWOOD TAP
 \$3 domestic drafts and house drinks; 724 W. Wrightwood Ave. 773-525-2593.</p> <p>CELTIC CROWN
 \$3 select drafts; 4301 N. Western Ave. 773-588-1110.</p> <p>CHIEF O'NEILL'S PUB
 \$3 Moosehead bottles and Miller Lite pints; 3471 N. Elston Ave. 773-473-5263.</p> | <p>CLARKE'S BAR AND GRILLE
 \$3 you-call-its; 2445 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-8306.</p> <p>CLEOS
 \$3 select shots and half-price Goose Island drafts; 1935 W. Chicago Ave. 312-243-5600.</p> <p>THE COACH HOUSE
 \$3 PBR and Shiner Bock bottles; 950 W. Wolfram St. 773-665-5660.</p> <p>THE CROSSROADS
 \$3 Goose Island drafts; 1120 W. Madison St. 312-243-1113.</p> <p>CUBBY BEAR
 \$3 Goose Island 312 drafts and Bud products; 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.</p> <p>THE CURSE
 \$3 call drinks; 3517 N. Clark St. 773-935-6694.</p> <p>THE DARK HORSE TAP AND GRILLE
 \$3 drafts; 3443 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-248-4400.</p> <p>DECLAN'S IRISH PUB
 \$3 Bud and Miller Lite drafts; 1240 N. Wells St. 312-642-5522.</p> <p>DIVISION ALE HOUSE
 \$3 all drafts; 1942 W. Division St. 773-384-6886.</p> <p>DOWNTOWN
 \$3 Bud Light drafts; 440 N. State St. 312-464-1400.</p> | <p>BECKETT'S PUBLIC HOUSE
 \$3 Jameson shots; 3210 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-880-9620.</p> <p>EMPIRE LIQUORS
 \$3 Miller Lite drafts; 1566 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-278-1600.</p> <p>FAITH & WHISKEY
 \$3 select shots; 1365 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-248-9119.</p> <p>THE FIFTY/50
 \$3 Jose Cuervo Silver shots; 2047 W. Division St. 773-489-5050.</p> <p>THE FIRKIN & PHEASANT
 \$3 select import and micro drafts; 670 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-327-7040.</p> <p>GANNON'S PUB
 \$3 all bottles; 4264 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-1007.</p> <p>HARRIGAN'S
 \$3 Guinness drafts; 2816 N. Halsted St. 773-248-5933.</p> <p>HIDDEN SHAMROCK
 \$3 Jameson shots; 2723 N. Halsted St. 773-883-0304.</p> <p>IN FINE SPIRITS LOUNGE
 \$3 craft beer cans and cask ale; 5420 N. Clark St. 773-334-9463.</p> <p>JIMMY GREEN'S BAR & GRILL
 \$3 Bud and Bud Light bottles; 825 S. State St. 312-386-9000.</p> | <p>JOHN BARLEYCORN
 \$3 Sam Adams drafts; 658 W. Belden Ave. 773-348-8899.</p> <p>KELLY'S
 \$3 all other drafts; 949 W. Webster Ave. 773-281-0656.</p> <p>KELSEY'S
 \$3 drafts; 2265 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-1666.</p> <p>LOGAN BAR AND GRILL
 \$3 specialty shots; 2230 N. California Ave. 773-252-1110.</p> <p>MAHONEY'S PUB & GRILL
 \$3 domestic drafts; 551 N. Ogden Ave. 312-733-2121.</p> <p>MARY'S ATTIC
 \$3 well drinks and domestic bottles; 5400 N. Clark St. 773-784-6969.</p> <p>MCDUNNA'S BAR AND GRILL
 \$3 import drafts; 1505 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-929-0944.</p> <p>MCFADDEN'S RESTAURANT
 \$3 well drinks; 1206 N. State Pkwy. 312-475-9450.</p> <p>MICKEYS
 \$3 well drinks; 2450 N. Clark St. 773-435-0007.</p> |
|--|--|--|--|

FOOD FIGHT

SETTLING DELICIOUS, AGE-OLD DISAGREEMENTS ONE ARGUMENT AT A TIME

Some like their pizza cut in squares, while others swear by slices. For as long as we've been stuffing our faces with delicious food, there have been conflicts about the way we eat it. Addressing such fervent foodie issues, we are proud to continue Food Fight.

This week: Are kids at brunch tolerable or not?

La Boulangerie
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE



VS



TOLERABLE

I don't have anything against instituting an adults-only policy at brunch, just as Lincoln Park's Sprout recently did. But I also

don't feel the need to campaign for a baby ban at every brunch spot around town. West Town's Old Oak Tap recently added a kids' menu to accommodate the number of neighborhood families coming in during weekend brunch, and sure enough, we spotted no fewer than three infants in the company of their mimosa-sipping parents on a recent Saturday afternoon. Surprisingly, they were less disruptive dining companions than some grown-ups we've had the pleasure of sharing our brunch time with. —LISA ARNETT



INTOLERABLE

There I was, sitting at the corner of a communal table at the Publican on a recent Sunday, when suddenly my dining companion's arm is sprayed with orange juice.

The culprit? The (kinda cute) 18-month-old in the highchair a place setting away who had turned a straw and mug full of OJ into a weapon distracting us from our sticky buns and bloody marys. With its tight seating, bustling staff and not-exactly-kid-friendly menu, Publican is among busy brunch destinations that are just not right for youngsters. It's not fun for the kids (as evidenced by the tantrum thrown by the OJ bandit when his cup was taken away), it's not fun for the parents (who were too busy keeping their toddler's fingers out of the sugar bowl to enjoy their meals) and it's definitely not fun for the rest of us. —EMILY VAN ZANDT

Let's fight!

Is there a food topic that makes you nuts? Tell us about it. Send pet peeves, dining dramas and trends that make you roll your eyes to metromix@tribune.com, and we may duke it out in this space.



Arami
DAN PETERSON FOR METROMIX

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music



Bridge Bar (315 N. LaSalle St.) opened Monday. If you like beef jerky-infused vodka, this is your spot.



GETTYIMAGES
FILE

Hear 'em out

Open-air shows you've gotta see

By Matt Pals

No, it's not summer yet, but you know you're thinking about it. And part of that excitement stems from moving your live music consumption outdoors, where the summer breeze and lawn setting means you don't sweat it as much if someone spills a beer 2 inches from you and smells like they live in a gym locker. To help you prepare, look ahead to the big shows this summer (with more left to be announced, of course) to which we suggest scoring tickets. (Full info at metromix.com.)

Ray LaMontagne and the Pariah Dogs

June 7 at Millennium Park

The singer-songwriter's voice is like honey dipped in smoke. And we mean that in the best way possible.

Dispatch

June 8 at Millennium Park

Um, because it takes you back to your junior high tastes?

Chicago Blues Festival

June 10-12 at Grant Park (free!)

Unlike some of the now-canceled, city-sponsored music fests, we couldn't imagine the city ever doing away with this one. Right?

Ravinia Festival

Through Sept. in Highland Park

We'll have a more complete Ravinia preview coming soon (tickets go on sale April 27); for now, get excited about Robert Plant and the Band of Joy (June 16), Jennifer Hudson (July 16) and Carrie Underwood (Sept. 4).



Def Leppard

July 5 at Marcus Amphitheater, July 15 at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre

Songs like "Photograph" never get old. Really, though, we don't need to hear "Pour Some Sugar on Me" at bars. Ever.

Kanye West June 30 at Marcus Amphitheater

He gets booed at the United Center, so perhaps he'd rather stay away from the city?



Katy Perry

July 7 at Marcus Amphitheater

You can't deny her music is summery. In fact, perhaps it should be banned September to April.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Pitchfork Music Festival

July 15-17 at Union Park

If the rest of the lineup has awesomeness like already-announced acts TV on the Radio and the Dismemberment Plan, this year's fest will be sweet.

Journey

July 30 at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre

Throwing you a bone, Sox fans.

Lollapalooza

Aug. 5-7 at Grant Park

Plenty more bands to be announced, obviously, but I'm excited about Foo Fighters (neither here nor there on Eminem and meh on Muse).

Chicago Jazz Festival

Sept. 1-4 at Grant Park (free!)

With lots of changes in the city's music events, we should all appreciate this fantastic bash even more.

Hyde Park Jazz Festival

Sept. 24, various venues (free!)

The neighborhood bash returns for its fifth year. Keep it up!

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MUSIC PRODUCER. MPAIS@TRIBUNE.COM.

New releases

Jennifer Hudson

"I Remember Me"



(Arista Records)

The Chicago native recently has been turning heads by shedding weight and showing off her new figure on magazine covers and as a spokes-

person for Weight Watchers. Luckily for Jennifer Hudson, her voice is such a showstopper that it will always be her calling card, not something superficial such as waist size.

On her sophomore R&B/pop record, "I Remember Me," the Oscar winner ("Dreamgirls") and former "American Idol" finalist embraces her can-do spirit by constantly trying to empower her listeners, whether it's the clap-along ambition anthem "Don't Look Down," stirring ballad "Believe" or straightforward "Everybody Needs Love," which takes Hudson's earnestness to corny levels. Yet she's always singing her heart out—without reaching uncontrolled, Christina Aguilera peaks of oversinging—and sounding like a woman who's experienced both incredible success and incredible tragedy (the murder of her mother, brother and nephew in 2008) in fewer than 30 years.

So whether she declares "I Remember Me" with the pride of a woman who will never lose her gratitude or her perspective, or asserts "I Got This" with both vulnerability and the confidence she can move forward, Hudson gives her overly polished but consistently engaging album something a lot of other earth-shaking singers don't: The feeling that the person behind the voice actually lives the songs, rather than shaking them off the minute she leaves the studio.

In concert: July 16 at Ravinia

—MATT PAIS



GETTY IMAGES

FASTFWD

THIS WEEK'S TOP 5 LIVE SHOWS

1. Lupe Fiasco

9 p.m. Sat. at House of Blues

Congrats on the No. 1 album.

2. De La Soul

9 p.m. Fri. at the Shrine

You already know why.

3. Warpaint

9 p.m. Thu. at Lincoln Hall

Eerie in a good way.

4. The Rural Alberta Advantage

10 p.m. Sat. at Lincoln Hall

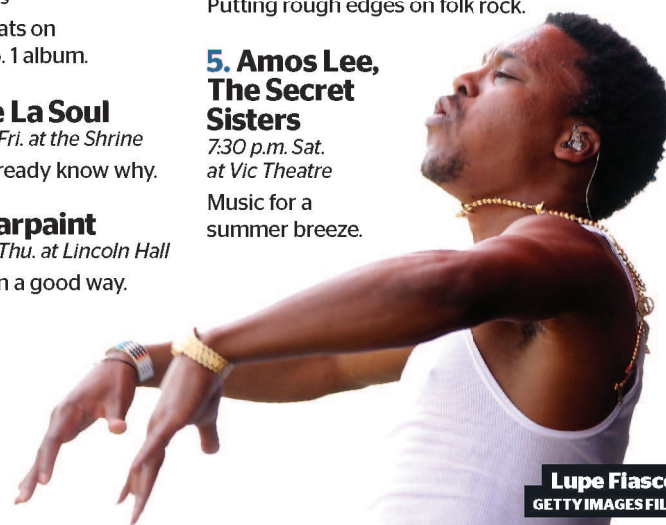
Putting rough edges on folk rock.

5. Amos Lee, The Secret Sisters

7:30 p.m. Sat.

at Vic Theatre

Music for a summer breeze.



Lupe Fiasco
GETTY IMAGES FILE

U2

July 5 at Soldier Field

Bono just wants to bring everyone together, and a packed house will prove the boys can still do it.



THE venue



JIM GAFFIGAN
Friday & Saturday, August 12 & 13



GARY ALLAN
This Saturday! March 26



BOB SAGET
special guest - Chris Bader
Friday, April 1



KEM
special guest - Fantasia
Friday, April 8



ERYKAH BADU
Friday, April 22



JACKSON BROWNE
Saturday, April 23

UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS

Saturday, April 2 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREESTYLE — Saturday, April 9 HITZ BOXING FIGHT NIGHT
Friday, April 29 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LATIN ROCK — Saturday, May 7 ANNA VISSI — Friday, May 13 GLADYS KNIGHT
Saturday, May 14 DEADLIEST CATCH - AN EVENING WITH CAPTAIN SIG & THE HILLSTRAND BROTHERS
Saturday, May 28 GUY FIERI FOOD SHOW — Friday, June 10 GABRIEL IGLESIAS — Saturday, July 16 PATTI LABELLE

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TICKETBOOTH

YOUR ON-SALE CONCERT GUIDE

ON SALE 10 A.M. WEDNESDAY

Candy Town, Izzy and the Kesstronics, The Real Jane Martin,
Tuesday, May 10
(\$7, 21+) at Martyrs.

Mary Fahl, Saturday,
June 11 (\$20, 21+) at Martyrs.

Glorious Vipers, Tacoma Narrows, Panoramic and True, Thursday, May 12 (\$7, 21+) at Martyrs.

Shaun Hague, Jake Walden, Thursday, June 23 (\$8, 21+) at Martyrs.

Kinetix, Great Divide, Friday, April 29 (\$12, 21+) at Martyrs.

Los Borrachos, Thursday, June 9 (\$8, 21+) at Martyrs.

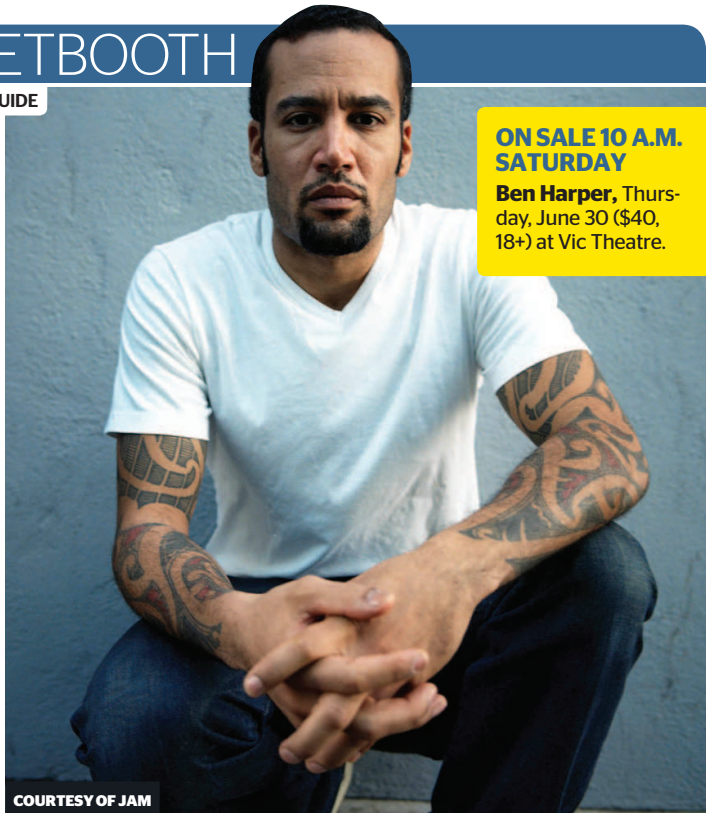
Pecha Kucha, Tuesday, June 7 (\$10, 21+) at Martyrs.

Tiny Bones, Dexter, Elements of Style, Monday, May 9 (\$7, 21+) at Martyrs.

ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

Aretha Franklin, Thursday, May 19 (\$47.50-\$125, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Bob Newhart, Saturday, Oct. 22 (\$37.50-



COURTESY OF JAM

\$57.50, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Chiddy Bang, Pusha T, Dev, Ninjasonik, Monday, May 30 (\$20-\$22, all ages) at House of Blues.

Bill Maher, Saturday, July 23 (\$45-\$75, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Tower of Power, Tuesday, May 17 (\$25-\$30, 17+) at House of Blues.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

James Blake, Sunday, May 15 (\$15, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Farewell Continental, Into It Over It, Sunday, June 19 (\$12-\$15, all ages) at Schubas.

Sam Roberts Band, Zeus, Tuesday, June 7 (\$15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

Tame Impala, Yuck, Wednesday, May 4 (\$14, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

Timbre Timbre, Friday, May 20 (\$12, 21+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Motley Crue, Poison, New York Dolls,

Friday, July 1 (\$17.50-\$95, all ages) at First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre

Tributosaurus, Friday, May 20 (\$22-\$25, all ages) at Park West.

Kanye West, Kid Cudi, Thursday, June 30 (\$20-\$65, all ages) at Marcus Amphitheater.

Neil Young, Bert Jansch, Thursday, May 6, Friday, May 7 (\$43-\$253, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

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‘Witness’ on the scene

Native Chicagoan Joe Meno has the write stuff—and he’s sharing his secrets

By Julia Borcherts

Ever attended a terrific play and left wishing you could write one too?

We were bitten by the bug after hearing about “Star Witness,” the new drama by native Chicagoan and acclaimed novelist Joe Meno for The House Theatre of Chicago, in which a small-town waitress who yearns for excitement faces troubling questions about tragedy and hope when she searches for a young girl who’s gone missing. The Hypocrites’ artistic director, Sean Graney, directs.

So we called Meno, 36—a Nelson Algren Award-winning author of five novels (including “Hair-styles of the Damned” and “The Great Perhaps”), two story collections (including “Demons in the Spring”), and several plays—during rehearsals and asked him to take us through the steps he uses to write a successful tale—and to create a new play on the spot as an example.

Step 1: Start with a character.

“For me, the easiest way to build a character is figuring out something they want—the more complex or difficult their want, the better. They have to go look for it and get into trouble.”

In “Star Witness”: “This girl Shelley wants to find this secret world that’s different than her small town and some surprise or excitement.”

On-the-spot example: “A music teacher who wants things to stop changing. He’s really fond of classical music and ballet and refinement, and he’s kind of bookish.”

Step 2: Develop an opposite character, ‘so that you have conflict.’

In “Star Witness”: “Shelley’s grandma, who sits by the police scanner [and] thinks of herself as this detective. Shelley wants things to be kept secret.”

On-the-spot example: “A substitute teacher who wants things to change. She’s interested in the future. She’s listening to headphones in the teachers’ lounge, and he mistakes her for a student because she’s young and informally dressed.”

Step 3: Create an event that ‘breaks the model or the equilibrium between the characters.’

In “Star Witness”: “A young girl goes missing.”

On-the-spot example: “A student beats up another student. The music teacher doesn’t want to get involved because he’s already resigned himself that these kids can’t be saved if they don’t have any interest in his music class. But this girl’s young and gung-ho, and she thinks there’s a possibility of change for some of these kids.”



Joe Meno

Star Witness

Where: The House Theatre of Chicago at the Chopin Theatre, 1543 W. Division St.

When: Through May 7.

Tickets: \$10-\$25; \$15 previews through Saturday: 773-278-1500, thehousetheatre.com.

Step 4: Raise the stakes.

“Force confrontation or put these characters into some place where their conflict pushes them forward on [a] journey.”

In “Star Witness”: “Shelley tries to find this missing girl, and she meets these [menacing] characters, which forces her to slowly begin to change.”

On-the-spot example: “We could put these two teachers together on a field trip to a museum. A couple [of] kids sneak off, and these two teachers, who feel at odds with each other, have to go find them together.”

Step 5: Satisfaction or resolution.

“The character has to find what they’re looking for. It might not be what they originally set out for, but, in some way, that want gets satisfied.”

In “Star Witness”: “The question [in this] play is, ‘How do you go on believing in things like hope and beauty and wonder when life is full of tragedy?’ Shelley does find this sense of wonder, but she’s less of a dreamer.”

On-the-spot example: “The teachers find the kids, reprimand them and then have this moment of understanding [that] you have to have an appreciation for the past, but what makes living interesting is that every day there’s a sense of change or possibility. In the Lifetime version of our play, on the bus ride back to school, she gives him her headphones to listen to some modern band.”




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To celebrate, we are passing out 100 single-use CTA cards. Want to score one?

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Dan Savage

SAVAGE TRUTH

DAN SAVAGE DOESN'T CARE IF YOU THINK HE'S MEAN—HE'S GOT SOMETHING TO SAY

Chicago native Dan Savage has made a career out of his tough-love advice and queer-conscious punditry. The U. of I. alum has edited newspapers, established a theater company, contributed to NPR, written books on gay marriage and parenting, and—of course—garnered a massive following from his internationally syndicated sex advice column and podcast “Savage Love.” (It even has an iPhone app.) But it’s his latest project, the YouTube-powered “It Gets Better” campaign, that he’s focusing on now. Savage, 46, created the video portal to host videos from adults advising gay teens who are struggling with bullies. Hang in there, many of the posters say, because life gets better. Straight and gay celebrities, athletes, politicians, individuals and groups have contributed to the site, from President Obama to Justin Bieber.

During the past six months, more than 10,000 videos have been submitted to Savage’s testimonial project, and many of them feature gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender adults sharing with gay teens their experiences involving violent bullying and how they overcame it.

Savage, together with his partner, Terry Miller, has released a compilation of essays based on the video submissions called “It Gets Better: Coming Out, Overcoming Bullying, and Creating a Life Worth Living.” Both authors are scheduled to speak at 7 p.m. Wednesday at The Nettelhorst School auditorium in Boystown. Proceeds from the book are going to LGBT youth charities. The signing and discussion are organized by Unabridged Books and Equality Illinois. RedEye spoke to Savage about his column, where he hangs out in Chicago and nightmare book tours.

JOHN LENDMAN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

By John Lendman
FOR REDEYE

Where do advice columnists go for advice?

I used to go to my mom—she passed away a few years ago—for advice, and I have voices in my head I sort of go to for advice. I can kind of hear Ann Landers' voice in my head, and Xaviera Hollander and my mom. I talk to my older brother Billy, and friends.

I've always called the column a conversation I'm having with friends all about sex. I often think going to your friends is the best place for advice, because they know you and they'll make jokes while giving you advice, which is helpful. And people will say, "You're so mean, you're so mean and you make fun of people," but when you go to your friends for advice, you tell them what you've done, the situation you're in, the first thing they do before giving you advice is make fun of you and have a laugh at your expense and then they give you advice, and that's what I do with my column.

You have a tough love approach to your advice. Did the "It Gets Better" project about bullying and how language hurts affect the way you give advice now?

No. [Laughs.] People who write me, read me. And so people that read me, know me. They know that the column is a rough and tumble place where you're as likely to get your hand held as your hand slapped. So I'm not ambushing anybody.

What books do you read and what podcasts do you listen to?

I listen to "This American Life" (where he is a contributor), and I listen to a lot of NPR because I'm just that kind of gay. I listen to musicals and I read books about history, about the second World War and the Stuarts and the Tudors. I'm very boring. [Laughs.]

When you visit Chicago, where do you hang out?

My boyfriend and I always go to the Wiener Circle for a char dog on Clark Street. If we're in town on a Monday night we go to Sidetrack for musical theater clip night, because I have been going to Sidetrack since I was 17 years old. So whenever I'm home, I go to Sidetrack to watch the musicals, and I always go to the lakefront and ride around, we rent bikes and go everywhere.

How did you organize a book based off video testimonials?

We wanted the book to do what we hoped the website would do and be representative of the LGBT experience. We come from all walks of life, all races, all religious traditions, all classes. We wanted a nice representative sample, but we also wanted moving stories and their helpful insights.

Was it difficult to choose from the over 10,000 videos for the book?

Absolutely.

Over the past six months getting all these testimonials on bullying, has it affected the way you view your influence as someone who gives advice?

Not necessarily. You know what was funny? Just to keep me humble a few months after the project exploded, I was getting e-mails from people asking me if I knew about this project. "There's an 'It Gets Better' project, have you heard of it?"

SAVAGE IN CHICAGO

When: 7 p.m.
Wednesday
Where: The Nettelhorst School (3252 N. Broadway)
Price: Free

What other projects are you taking on in the future?

I've been working on a pilot for MTV, which would be tremendous, [but it's] in the belly of the beast. Beyond that, I've been just trying to find more time to go snowboarding with my kid and my husband. Things are a little crazy right now. [Laughs.]

The pilot doesn't have a name right now. I'm not allowed to talk about it. That's MTV's [doing], they have [my silence about the project] under contract until they know what to do with it.*

For your column, when giving advice on such a wide spectrum of issues with sexuality, how do you research your responses? Do any topics ever stump you?

Oh yeah, things stump me all the time. One of the dirty secrets of the advice biz is that you appear omniscient because you don't print the questions you don't have answers for. [Laughs.] It makes you look like you have all the answers.

You're coming with Terry, who worked on the book with you.

Yeah, which will be great because all these years I have been going on book tours and he's insisted that a book tour is like a vacation, and I got a vacation and he didn't. He has no idea what a grueling nightmare a book tour is, so I'm glad he's coming. It was a great experience to work on a project with him.

* ACCORDING TO DAN SAVAGE'S FACEBOOK PAGE, HE HAS BEEN TRAVELING THE COUNTRY SPEAKING AT COLLEGES AND DOING Q&AS WITH STUDENTS FILMED BY MTV CAMERAS.

It really does get better



Lenox Magee

ritaredeye
@tribune.com

I would be lying if I said growing up gay and black on the South Side was easy. By age 14, I was constantly fighting—with my words and my fists—and I was afraid life would never get better. At one point, I even tried praying the gay away. (It didn't work.)

Just a few days after I came out to my parents, I decided I wanted to play football—something I hadn't done since the seventh grade.

I showed up to tryouts and, at first, couldn't catch the ball. I was tackled, thrown, dragged, dirtied and bruised—all things I loathe.

Yet after enduring that first practice, I sensed I had gained the respect of most of my teammates, who I think honestly believed up to that point that a gay man could not play football.

Eventually, word got out in the league that a gay guy was playing football, which made me the target of some extra taunting and more aggressive tackles. During one game, I caught a pass and gained 35 yards. As I was being tackled, the opposing player yelled, "Get down, fag!" Before I could reply with my fist, something surprised me. I didn't have to stand up for myself—my teammates were there to defend me.

It was during that moment that I realized my teammates were not the same people they were at the beginning of the season. I learned that you *can* change the way people think, and people want to be accepting but sometimes they just don't know how. They're scared.

That season, my team nicknamed me "Bruiser." I didn't understand it at the time, but several years later, I think I finally got it. They thought of me as a fighter—a fighter who broke barriers. They saw my determination and who I really am.

When I heard about the "It Gets Better" movement, I felt compelled to make a video with three of my friends and post it to YouTube. To our surprise—and delight—our work was selected to be in the new book based on the project by Dan Savage and Terry Miller.

The book retells our "It Gets Better" video, and it does something else unique—it shows that African-Americans are an important part of this gay struggle for equality in America.

We now have a survival guide, full of real stories from real people overcoming their struggles in the real world. True "Bruisers."

LENOX MAGEE IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

"I've always called the column a conversation I'm having with friends all about sex."

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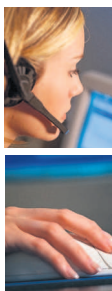
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Mia Kirshner (left) and Nina Dobrev in 'The Vampire Diaries' CW



show patrol

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BEST BETS
'Modern Family'

8 p.m. Wednesday, ABC



'Justified'

9 p.m. Wednesday, FX

Mommy dearest

Isobel, Isobel, Isobel.

When "The Vampire Diaries" returns to the CW on April 7, fans will learn what Elena's mother has been up to concerning the oldest vampire, Klaus, who wants to sacrifice Elena (Nina Dobrev).

"Isobel is very smart, and they've been referencing her research all year, and things that she knows," executive producer Julie Plec said Saturday at the Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo. "One of the things ... she will say is that she's been trying to track down Klaus and maybe they can nip him in the bud before he comes to Mystic Falls looking for Elena."

But, added Plec, "you can't really trust a vampire when all is said and done—or a human, for that matter."

Speaking of lost trust, Aunt Jenna (Sara Canning) will be thrown for a loop that Isobel (Mia Kirshner) is still alive, considering everyone she loves has told her differently. Matt (Zach Roerig) will have a difficult time dealing with the fact that his girlfriend, Caroline (Candice Accola), is a vamp.

"There are a lot of things changing, and character relationships changing, as we tee up the imminent arrival of Klaus," Plec said.

Plec, Accola and Michael Trevino sat down with writers before a "TVD" Q&A session with fans at C2E2.

Things are certain to change for Trevino's character, werewolf Tyler Lockwood, who left Mystic Falls after shortly after his first transformation. Not that anyone doubted it, but yes, Tyler will return, Trevino revealed Saturday. He couldn't say when or how.

"There's going to be some kind of change to him, I think," Trevino said. "Has he been gone to werewolf camp with all the other werewolves doing hand-to-hand combat? ... I think he has to come back as a badass."

And for fans of Bonnie (Katerina Graham), don't fear. The witch is back too. Damon knows Bonnie should be able to tap into the power of her ancestors, making her "a good weapon in the battle against Klaus."

"Bonnie's importance in the final chapter of this season, which is the Klaus chapter, is monumental," Plec said.

» For more on "The Vampire Diaries," visit **showpatroltv.com**.



TRACK-OFF 'Wey Da Money @'

JayDouBL
» Listen at redeye.chicago.com/kylesfiles

JayDouBL got shoulders shimmying and heads nodding with "Wey Da Money @," his successful submission to the weekly Kyles Files track-off contest. The combination of rap and danceable dance hall flavor brought him plenty of online accolades in his close battle (he garnered 55 percent of the vote) against Rooby Man's "She Bought It For Me." Vote every Monday in a new contest. KYRA KYLES, REDEYE



DVD 'Skyline' Available now

The special effects are impressive and the cast includes several faces familiar from TV series (Eric Balfour of "24" and Donald Faison of "Scrubs"). The Blu-ray disc includes a special uHEAR feature that instantly skips back a few seconds and turns on the subtitles for any section you couldn't hear. Now that's cool. JIM CARNES, THE SACRAMENTO BEE; ROGUE PICTURES PHOTO

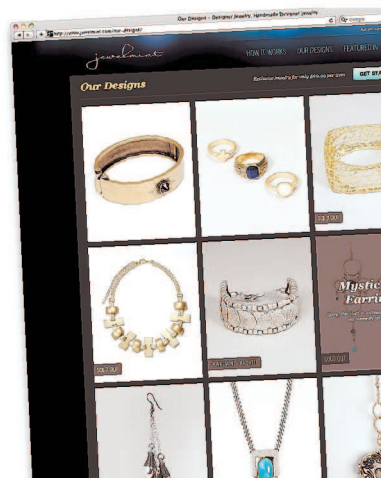


VIDEO Jack White at SXSW

at youtube.com
Jack White of the White Stripes made a surprise appearance at SXSW in Austin, Texas, opening up for the new Third Man Records signee Seasick Steve in a parking lot. White performed a cover of the Buddy Holly classic "Not Fade Away" and the White Stripes song "Dead Leaves and the Dirty Ground." ERIC ALLEN BEEN, POPMATTERS.COM

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at jewelmint.com
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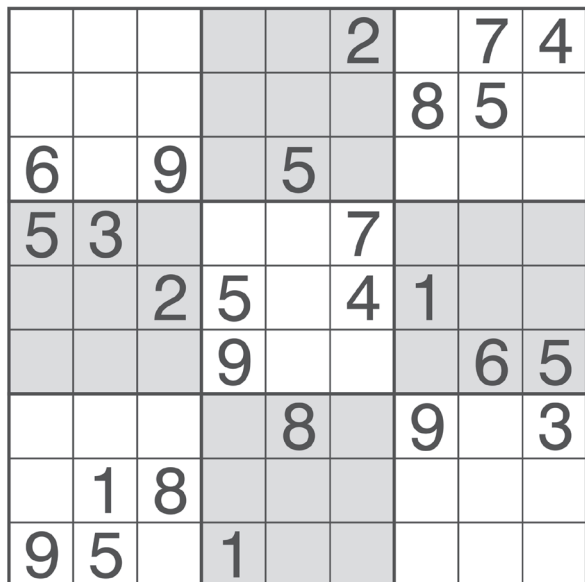


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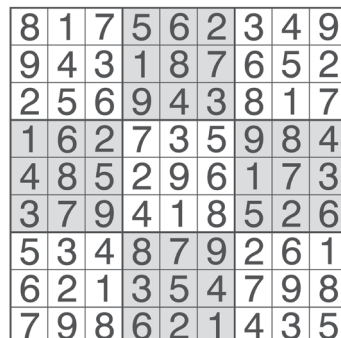
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

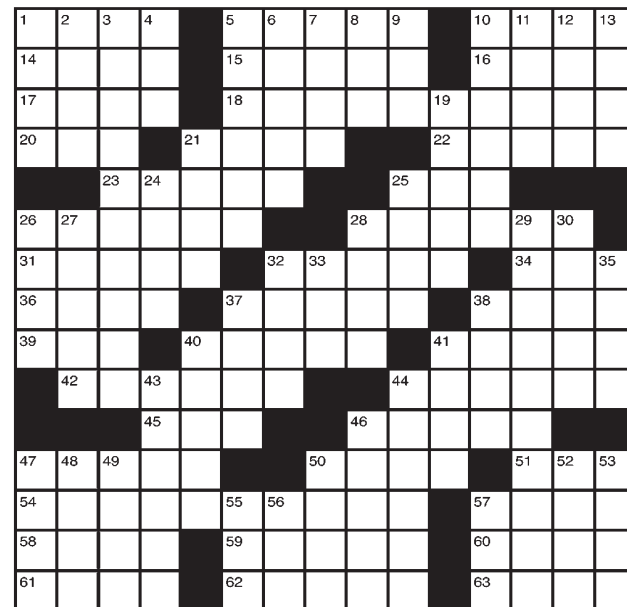


ACROSS

- 1 Liver secretion
- 5 Colorful parrot
- 10 _ out; faint
- 14 Cut of pork
- 15 Wear away
- 16 Actress Paquin
- 17 Was in the red
- 18 Boring
- 20 Greek "T"
- 21 Dwelling
- 22 Groups of hoodlums
- 23 Jeweled crown
- 25 Shade tree
- 26 Agitated state
- 28 Rye and pumpnickel
- 31 Bicyclist _ Armstrong
- 32 Floating chunks of ice
- 34 Greek letter
- 36 Nevada's neighbor
- 37 Inner courtyard
- 38 Come to a halt
- 39 Canister
- 40 Explorer _ de León
- 41 Exact duplicate
- 42 "Do unto _"
- 44 _ ground;
- 45 _ made progress
- 46 " _ you kidding me?"
- 46 Magna _;
- 47 British charter
- 47 Island in the Gulf of Naples
- 50 Congressional runner
- 51 Small boy
- 54 Making even
- 57 Carry
- 58 Final bills
- 59 _ 6; lodging chain
- 60 Element whose symbol is Fe
- 61 Breaks a fast
- 62 Group that aids a sheriff
- 63 Catch sight of

DOWN

- 1 Smudge
- 2 Des Moines, _
- 3 Naval officer



- 4 Final part
- 5 Computer's storage capacity
- 6 Fragrance
- 7 Ice cream scoop holder
- 8 Hustle & bustle
- 9 Damp
- 10 _ Canal
- 11 Shortly
- 12 _ as a bug in a rug
- 13 Impudent talk
- 19 Makes eyes at
- 21 Fogginess
- 24 1/12 of a foot
- 25 Therefore
- 26 Botch; goof up
- 27 Numerical comparison
- 28 Soft cheese
- 29 Devices that trigger bombs
- 30 Pebble
- 32 Forbids
- 33 And so forth: abbr.
- 35 Mimicked
- 37 Skin opening
- 38 Thin cut
- 40 Danger
- 41 Give a hoot
- 43 Pester
- 44 Flock of geese
- 46 Walking sticks
- 47 Relinquish
- 48 Greenish-blue
- 49 Football kick
- 50 Peach stones
- 52 Perched upon
- 53 Opposite of acknowledge
- 55 Mischief maker
- 56 Animal park
- 57 Even score



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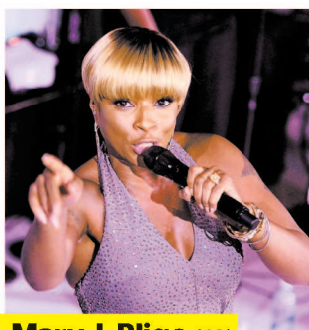
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Keep the change

Even celebrities have to grow up—and we have suggestions for doing it gracefully

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Say it ain't so—Ewan McGregor will be keeping his clothes on. The "I Love You Phillip Morris" star turns 40 on March 31, and he told the U.K.'s Express newspaper he's banning himself from any more roles that require nude scenes. While we wouldn't mind seeing his bod for a few more years, we understand that he's ready to move on. McGregor's rather mature decision got us thinking about some other famous people who could use some pointers around their 40th birthdays. Here are our pearls of wisdom.



Mary J. Blige (40)

Blige should be all about dumping the drama at 40. Oh wait, she gave that up years ago. On that note, Blige should keep on blasting with her killer pipes.



Mark Wahlberg (39)

Like McGregor, Wahlberg probably will try to give up taking off his shirt, a la his old-school Calvin Klein ads and "The Fighter." We heartily object.



Sacha Baron Cohen (39)

From "Ali G" to "Borat," Baron Cohen has rocked some truly outrageous facial hair. We think it's time for him to come clean—clean shaven, that is. Fu manchu-free is the way to be!



Mariah Carey (40 or 41)

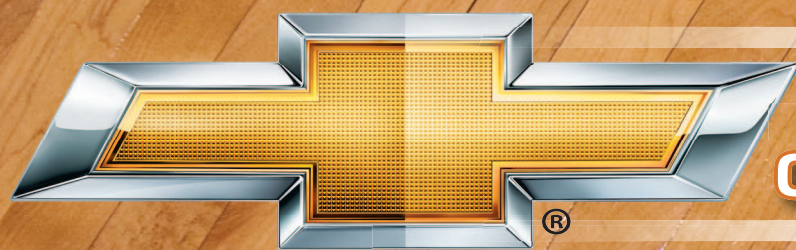
When sources vary this much on Carey's real age, it means it's time for her to grow up. That means treating her husband, Nick Cannon, like an adult—even if he is 10 years her junior.

Ricky Martin (39)

We couldn't be more pleased that Martin finally came out of the closet—but then he had to go break out the silver man-jeggings at this year's Grammys. Please, please take those to Goodwill.



Ewan McGregor
GETTY IMAGES/FILE



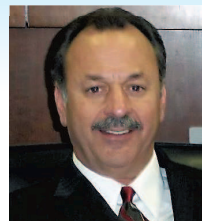
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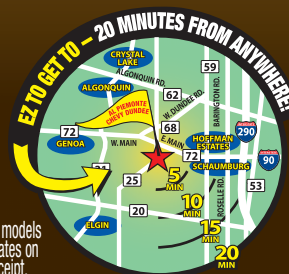
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red hot



Sheen on the scene

CBS is not winning. Charlie Sheen's manager, Mark Burg, denied reports that CBS has offered Sheen his job back on "Two and a Half Men." "Not sure how this all started," Burg said in an e-mail to Tribune Newspapers. Meanwhile, Sheen made a surprise appearance Monday on Jimmy Kimmel's show, where he planted a wet one on Kimmel's lips. Now *that's* winning.

Embrace the 'Bell'

If people forever remember Elizabeth Berkley—who is promoting her new book, "Ask Elizabeth"—as Jessie from "Saved by the Bell," Berkley says she won't go running to the pill bottle. Asked about the potential that Jessie will be her legacy, Berkley told **radaronline.com**: "I have nothing to say except ... I'm so excited!" Atta girl.



Berkley

More 'Mad' love

Fans of Don Draper's chest can heave a big sigh of relief. "Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner and the show's network, AMC, are close to a deal for a fifth season, **deadline.com** reports. But we'll still have to wait a bit longer to see Joan and Peggy back in action. "Mad Men" seasons traditionally kick off during the summer, but the late date of the deal means Season 5 will be pushed back a while.

'Office' max

And the hits keep on coming. NBC continues to line up big-name guest stars for the May 19 season finale of "The Office," according to **ew.com**. Will Arnett will appear along with the previously confirmed Ricky Gervais. That's what she ... aw, we just don't have the heart to make a Michael Scott joke.



Arnett



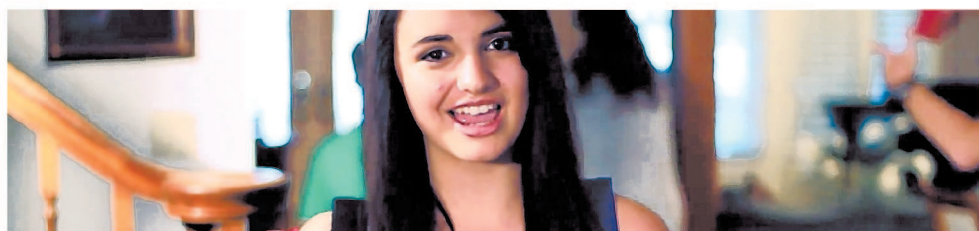
Russell Brand and Katy Perry
GETTY IMAGES

Everything's normal here. Please do not look at the 25-foot teepee by the pool. "We bought that for our last Valentine's Day," Russell Brand says in the April issue of *Details*. "I suppose those are the kind of sentences that rather mock my insistence that everything is normal." As long as Brand and Katy Perry are happy, who cares about normal?

IS THAT A TEEPEE?

THE DIGIT \$20,000

That's how much Rebecca Black is estimated to have made from her horrible YouTube smash hit, "Friday," **forbes.com** reports. The cash comes from YouTube revenue agreements and iTunes sales. So who's laughing now?



Real science fiction

Calling all fanboys: Syfy has announced its upcoming slate of corny Saturday original movies. Which of the following titles is not on that list? Text "**syfy**" followed by the number of your guess to **87708**. We'll text you back to let you know if you got it right.

1. "Snowmageddon"
2. "Megamouth"

3. "Jersey Shore Shark Attack"
4. "Zombie Apocalypse"

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